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Theatre*

*Season of  
Grand Opera*  
Nov./Dec.  
1957



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(Offenbach)

**TURANDOT**  
(Puccini)

**MARRIAGE OF FIGARO**  
(Mozart)

**FAUST**  
(Gounod)

**LA BOHEME**  
(Puccini)

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# GAIETY THEATRE

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 3

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 6

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 11

at 7.45 p.m.

## LA BOHÈME

(GIACOMO PUCCINI)

(By arrangement with G. RICORDI & CO., London)

First produced, Teatro Reggio, Turin, February 1st, 1896

Words by GIACOSO and ILLICA, founded on HENRI MURGER'S book,

"La Vie de Bohème"

### DRAMATIS PERSONAE

Rudolph (a Poet)	- - - - -	WILLIAM McALPINE
Marcel (a Painter)	- - - - -	JOHN HAUXWELL
Colline (a Philosopher)	- - - - -	JAMES PEASE
Schaunard (a Musician)	- - - - -	NIVEN MILLER
Benoit (a Landlord)	-	
Alcindoro (a State Councillor)	}	BRENDAN CAVANAGH
Custom-House Sergeant	-	GUS MADDEN
Musetta (a Grisette)	- - - - -	ELIZABETH RUST
Mimi (a Maker of Embroidery)	- - - - -	ADELE LEIGH

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11 South Leinster Street,

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November, 1957.

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On behalf of the Patron Members' Committee of the Dublin Grand Opera Society, I wish to draw your attention to the contribution which the Society has made to the musical and theatrical life of the city, by presenting two seasons of opera each year for many years, at what by international standards are exceedingly low prices. It is not always fully realised that the Society is non-professional and that its achievements depend on the voluntary efforts of the management and members of the chorus.

To organise an opera season in any city is a most expensive business. In order to continue its work, the Society requires the support of the citizens. The best method by which you can help the Society is by becoming a Patron Member. The annual subscription is £4.4.0 which entitles a member to four Dress Circle seats (value £3.0.0), two for each season. Moreover, patrons are allotted priority postal booking for seats in the Dress Circle and Parterre.

If you wish to become a Patron Member, please apply at the desk in the Dress Circle foyer, or, alternatively, fill in the form provided below, and forward it at your convenience.

Yours truly,

THOMAS A. DOYLE,

Chairman, Patron Members' Committee.

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To Hon. Treasurer,  
Dublin Grand Opera Society,  
11 South Leinster St., Dublin.

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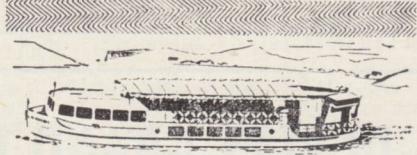
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## DUBLIN GRAND OPERA SOCIETY

**25 NOV.  
30 NOV.  
9 DEC.  
14 DEC.**

**TALES OF HOFFMAN**  
(OFFENBACH)

**26 NOV.  
28 NOV.  
2 DEC.  
12 DEC.**

**TURANDOT**  
(PUCCINI)

**27 NOV.  
29 NOV.  
4 DEC.  
13 DEC.**

**FAUST**  
(GOUNOD)

**3 DEC.  
6 DEC.  
11 DEC.**

**LA BOHEME**  
(PUCCINI)

**5 DEC.  
7 DEC.  
10 DEC.**

**MARRIAGE OF FIGARO**  
(MOZART)

# LA BOHÈME

(GIACOMO PUCCINI)

Time : about 1830      Place : Paris

## SYNOPSIS OF SCENERY

- ACT 1 A GARRET IN THE LATIN QUARTER, PARIS.
- ACT 2 A SQUARE NEAR THE CAFE MOMUS, CHRISTMAS EVE.
- ACT 3 A GATEWAY TO PARIS, ON THE ORLEANS ROAD.
- ACT 4 THE SAME AS ACT 1.

The Bohemians are four artistes who live in the picturesque Quartier Latin of Paris in the mid-nineteenth century. They are Rudolph, the poet, Marcel, the painter, Colline, the philosopher, and Schaunard, the musician.

The first act of the opera opens in a bare attic where Marcel and Rudolph are huddled over a stove, trying to get warmth from a small fire they have made with Rudolph's manuscripts. They are soon joined by Colline and Schaunard, who are in a state of great jubilation, having acquired money and food. So with much merriment and laughter they settle down to a feast during which they make their landlord drunk so that he forgets about the rent that is owing to him.

After their meal they decide to go off to a nearby café, but as Rudolph has work to do, he promises to join them later. While he works he is interrupted by Mimi, a small flower-seller, whose candle has blown out on the stairs. Rudolph relights the candle for her and then sees how very lovely and how frail she looks. In a scene of great tenderness and beauty he tries to warm her hands which are frozen, and they fall in love with each other.

They thus go off to join the others at the Café Momus. While they are celebrating at the café, Musetta, an old love of Marcel's, comes by with her latest conquest, an old love, Alcindoro. She does her best to make Marcel jealous, and then, sending Alcindoro off on a bogus message, she joins the artistes and they all flee, leaving the bill for Musetta's duped suitor to pay.

The next act is in the snow before a tavern at the toll gate, where Marcel is painting a tavern sign. Rudolph and Mimi have been having many quarrels, and most of them are due to Rudolph's hasty temper. Marcel upbraids Rudolph and tells him to be kinder to her, but Rudolph replies that he thinks he must leave Mimi because she is fatally ill and her strength is being sapped by their continual bickering. Unknown to him Mimi has overheard their conversation and betrays her presence by a fit of coughing; Rudolph is immediately stricken by remorse, and they become reconciled, but decide that they will separate for a time.

In the last act of the opera we are once again transported to the garret, where the friends are assembled, but they are a sadder little group than they were when the opera commenced. However, they keep up a pretence of their old gaiety and stage a burlesque feast. While their noise is at its loudest Musetta and Mimi arrive. Mimi has left her latest lover to come back to spend her last moments with her beloved Rudolph.

In the last two moments they have alone together the two tragic lovers try to recapture some of the early glamour and beauty of their love, and recall the time when Rudolph gently warmed Mimi's hand. Just when they seem at last to be living happily in the past, Mimi dies and leaves the sorrowing Rudolph to face the future alone.

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## DUBLIN GRAND OPERA SOCIETY

11 Leinster Street, South.

President: JOHN F. LARCHET, MUS.D., D.MUS., F.R.I.A.M.

Chairman: LIEUT.-COL. WILLIAM O'KELLY.

Hon. Secretary: ALBERT E. TIMLIN, 6 Hollybrook Park, Clontarf. (Tel. 335689).

Joint Hon. Treasurers: CLEMENT F. MORRIS, MARTIN McCULLOUGH.

Hon. Assistant Secretary: MONICA CONDRON.

Chairman, Patron Members' Committee: THOMAS A. DOYLE, S.C.

Musical Director: LIEUT.-COL. J. M. DOYLE.

Director of Chorus: JULIA GRAY.

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